

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for processing concentrates, particularly concentrates produced from copper sulfide-based ores, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the concentrate ~~[[4]]~~ to be processed, obtained from ore concentration, is divided into two sulfidic concentrates of different types, to a concentrate ~~[[7]]~~ mainly containing poorly soluble components such as the precious metals contained in the ore and containing sulfide-form iron, and to a concentrate ~~[[8]]~~ mainly containing well soluble components, and that the concentrate ~~[[8]]~~ containing soluble components is conducted to a leaching step ~~[[9]]~~, and the solution ~~[[13]]~~ obtained from said leaching step is conducted to at least one conversion step ~~[[11, 16]]~~, and that in the conversion step ~~[[11]]~~ located first in the flowing direction, there is fed the concentrate ~~[[7]]~~ containing poorly soluble components, and that in the conversion step ~~[[11]]~~ that is located first in the flowing direction, at least the copper contained in the solution is converted to sulfidic form by means of the sulfide-form iron of the concentrate ~~[[7]]~~ containing poorly soluble components, and that at least part of the solution ~~[[12]]~~ obtained from the conversion step ~~[[11, 16]]~~ is returned to the leaching step ~~[[9]]~~.

2. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein in the conversion steps ~~[[16]]~~ following the conversion step that is

located first in the flowing direction, the different metal components are converted to sulfidic form by means of sulfide-form iron ~~[[(17)]]~~ fed into said conversion step.

3. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 ~~[[or 2]]~~,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the leaching ~~[[(9)]]~~ is carried out as atmospheric
leaching at the temperature of 50-150°C.

4. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 ~~[[or 2]]~~,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the leaching ~~[[(9)]]~~ is carried out as autoclave leaching.

5. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of the preceding~~
~~claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the conversion step ~~[[(11, 16)]]~~ is
carried out at the temperature of 90-200°C.

6. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 5, ~~characterized in~~
~~that~~ wherein the conversion step ~~[[(11, 16)]]~~ is carried out at the temperature of 150-
190°C.

7. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of the preceding~~
~~claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the iron added in the first conversion
step ~~[[(11)]]~~ in the flowing direction is chalcopyrite (CuFeS_2).

8. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the iron added in ~~[[the]]~~ a conversion step ~~[[(16)]]~~ that is next in succession after the first conversion step is troilite (FeS).

9. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of the preceding claims 1-6, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the iron added in ~~[[the]]~~ a conversion step ~~[[(16)]]~~ that is next in succession after the first conversion step is pyrrhotite (Fe_{1-x}S).

10. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~any of the preceding claims, characterized in that the~~ wherein a flotation process ~~[[(19)]]~~ is used for producing the concentrates and is controlled by means of mineral-specific electrochemical measurements.

11. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the leaching step ~~[[(9)]]~~ used in the treatment of the concentrate is controlled by means of mineral-specific electrochemical measurements.

12. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the conversion step ~~[[(11, 16)]]~~ used in the treatment of the concentrate is controlled by means of mineral-specific electrochemical measurements.

13. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of the preceding~~
~~claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein in the conversion step ~~[[(11)]]~~ that is
located first in the flowing direction, the precious metals contained in the
concentrates are recovered.